



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
UNITED STATES MILITARY GROUP CHILE
APO NEW YORK 09869

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SCCH-AA

14 January 1975

SUBJECT: Case of Charles Horman

Commander in Chief
U.S. Southern Command
Quarry Heights, Canal Zone

1. On 19 November 1973, an Article by Marvine Howe, inclosure 1 entitled "Two Americans Slain in Chile: The Unanswered Questions" appeared in the New York Times. The article (written on 5 November) deals with two American citizens (Charles E. Horman and Frank R. Teruggi) who were residing in Chile on 11 September 1973 when the Chilean Armed Forces assumed control of the government. Shortly after 11 September these two Americans disappeared. It was subsequently determined that both had been killed. The New York Times article raises the issue of the role of Embassy officials during the crisis as well as the protection of U.S. citizens. The article also makes certain allegations and statements about members of the Navy Mission, in Valparaiso; comments about a ride given by COMUSMILGP, Captain Davis, to Charles E. Horman, and to his travelling companion Terry Simon; and quotes a retired American (Sic-Navy) Engineer assigned to the 15th Naval District Headquarters in Panama as saying "we came down to do a job and it's done".

2. The matter of the missing Americans in Chile has been the subject of voluminous correspondence between Embassy Santiago and State Department. Additionally there have been numerous queries from Congress. The issues have finally resulted in an official query (inclosure 2) by the Congress in the form of a General Accounting Office (GAO) Team review of Department of State's discharge of responsibilities to extend consular protection to U.S. citizens abroad during periods of crisis.

3. MILGP involvement occurred on 11 September when two strangers approached a Navy Mission Officer in Viña del Mar and solicited information as to what was happening. They initially represented themselves as American tourists which later proved to be only partially accurate. This inadvertent

meeting evolved into considerable effort to assist the stranded couple, one of whom was Charles E. Horman. Although the major GAO team investigative effort was directed at other Embassy elements, the GAO representatives did contact COMUSMILGP to determine the nature and substance of Navy Mission and MILGP involvement.

4. During the week of 10 December 1973, COMUSMILGP carried a Memorandum on this subject to CINCSO Headquarters describing the nature and substance of Navy Mission/MILGP involvement. COMUSMILGP records show that the memorandum was shown to the then Chief of Staff USCINCSO. To-date all message traffic has been via State/DIA channels. As an element of the Mission Santiago, MILGP cooperated as required and deemed appropriate by the Embassy.

5. GAO Representatives advise that a final report to the Congress is required in the June-July 1975 time frame. In view of the GAO initiated discussions with COMUSMILGP (December 1974) it is deemed appropriate to apprise higher commands that data and information provided to the GAO representatives.

6. Inclosure 3 is a resume of Navy Mission/COMUSMILGP involvement and is in substance the memorandum hand-carried to CINCSO Headquarters in December 1973 and referred to above in paragraph 4.

7. Other documents requested by and provided to GAO Representatives are as follows:

a. COMUSMILGP Chile message 211231Z August 1973. Inclosure 4. This message provides the detailed technical requirements levied on the NAVSOUTH representative, Mr. Creeter, prior to his arrival in Chile. After reading the New York Times article, COMUSMILGP advised Marvine Howe personally (at the Ambassador's residence) of the detailed technical aspect of Creeter's visit and about her inappropriate suggestion that Art Creeter's job was connected in any way with the coup of 11 September.

b. Admin COMUSNAVSO Message 212021Z November 1973. Inclosure 5. This message was in response to a COMUSMILGP request (after reading the New York Times article) and confirms that Mr. Art Creeter did in general (and unfortunately) make the statement quoted by Marvine Howe that he had been sent down to Chile to do a job and had done it.

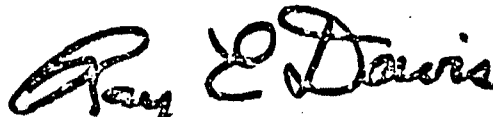
c. 8 October 1974, statement (inclosure 6) (less inclosures) by LTCOL RYAN in response to CONSUL Santiago memorandum of 4 October 1974. This memorandum answers a query from Congressman Fraser to State Department of 15 July 1974

(inclosure 7) concerning phone questions and letters passed to Congressman Fraser's office by the Horman family.

d. Copy of article written by Terry Simon in December 6, 1973 issue of Senior Scholastic entitled "American Girl in Chile's Revolution". Inclosure 8. This article contains numerous bits and pieces of truth but is extremely imaginative and misleading. Example: Terry Simon alleges to have spoken with a U.S. Army officer "stationed in Valparaiso". This cannot be true but adds to her scenario.

8. Also attached are several other statements (inclosures 9-15) shown to the GAO Representatives during their visit to Embassy Santiago.

9. Embassy has seen and cleared this letter for transmittal.



RAY E. DAVIS
Captain, U.S. Navy
Commander

CF:
COMUSNAVSO, Ft Amador, Canal Zone

- Inclosure (1) - New York Times Article dated November 19, 1973 by Marvine Howe entitled " 2 Americans Slain in Chile: The Unanswered Questions".
- Inclosure (2) - SECSTATE Washington, D.C. message 051820Z November 1974
(Subject: General Accounting Office-Review of Consular protection of US citizens during crisis)
- Inclosure (3) - Resume of involvement of Navy Mission members
- Inclosure (4) - COMUSMILGP Chile message 211231Z August 1973
(Subject: Scheduled visit of Mr. A.P. Creter)
- Inclosure (5) - ADMIN COMUSNAVSO message 212021Z November 1973
(Subject: Request for information)
- Inclosure (6) - Copy of letter dated 8 October 1974 from LTCOL Ryan to Mr. Fred Purdy, U.S. Consul Santiago, Chile
- Inclosure (7) - Copy of letter from Donald M. Fraser Chairman, Subcommittee on International Organizations and Movements dated 15 July 1974
- Inclosure (8) - Copy of article Senior Scholastic "American Girl in Chile's Revolution"
- Inclosure (9) - CHARSEC (COL URRUTIA) Memorandum for Record
(Subject: Status of U.S. Citizen)
- Inclosure (10)- Deputy Chief Navy Section letter dated 16 November 1973
(Subject: Supplementary Statement concerning my conversations with Mr. Charles Horman and his female companion in Vina del Mar during the period 11-15 September 1973)
- Inclosure (11)- Copy of letter from YNC Paul W. Epply, USN, dated 19 November 1973
- Inclosure (12)- Copy of statement of LCDR Henry R. Fraunfelder, dated 26 November 1973 (Subject: Statement concerning recent visit to Chile by supervisor of Shipbuilding, Conversion and Repair 15ND Representative, Mr. A.P. Creter)
- Inclosure (13)- Statement of LCDR Henry R. Fraunfelder
(Statement regarding Charles Horman)

Inclosure (14) - Statement of CDR Edward J. Johnson, SC, USN
in the case of Charles Horman

Inclosure (15) - Statement of LTCOL Patrick J. RYAN, USMC
(Resume of Naval Mission contacts with
Charles Horman and Terry Simon during
the period 11 September-15 September 1973
in Valparaiso, Chile dated 5 October 1973)